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(72) Inventor: DAVIDSEN, Richard; Prof. Holstlaan 6, NL-5656 AA Eindhoven (NL).

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(74) Agent: LOTTIN, Claudine; INTERNATIONAAL OC-TROOBUREAU B.V., Prof Holstlaan 6, NL-5656 AA Eindhoven (NL).

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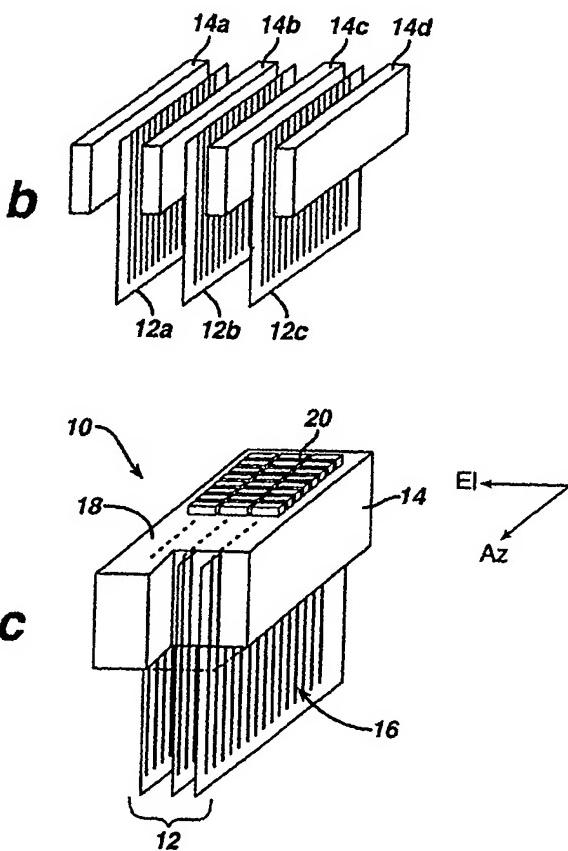
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(54) Title: MULTIDIMENSIONAL ULTRASONIC TRANSDUCER ARRAYS



(57) Abstract: A two dimensional ultrasonic transducer array stack is described which has a backing block of acoustically absorbent material formed of alternating plates of backing material and flex circuits adhesively bonded together. The thickness of the plates establishes the elevational dimension between the flex circuits and corresponds to the elevational pitch of the two dimensional array. The backing block may also be formed by photoetching conductive traces directly on the plates of backing material, which are then adhesively bonded together to form the backing block.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/EP 01/13182

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
 IPC 7 B06B1/06 G10K11/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 B06B G10K

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 329 498 A (GREENSTEIN MICHAEL) 12 July 1994 (1994-07-12)	1,2, 7-11,13, 16-19
A	column 5, line 30 - line 62; figure 1 column 6, line 3 - line 38 column 4, line 37 - line 42 ---	6
X	EP 0 637 470 A (HEWLETT PACKARD CO) 8 February 1995 (1995-02-08)	1,5, 7-11,13, 16-19
	column 4, line 40 -column 7, line 5; figures 1-5 ---	
X	US 5 559 388 A (SMITH LOWELL S ET AL) 24 September 1996 (1996-09-24)	1,5-7, 11,13, 16-19
A	column 4, line 18 -column 6, line 8; figures 3-5 ---	8
	-/-	

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 Patent family members are listed in annex.

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Date of the actual completion of the International search

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Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
 Tel: (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
 Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Anderson, A

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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A,P	US 6 288 477 B1 (GILMORE JAMES MICHAEL ET AL) 11 September 2001 (2001-09-11) cited in the application abstract -----	14

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT
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